

# The Rich, the Blind, and the Lost: Lessons from Luke 18-19

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**References:** Luke 18-19, Luke 10:27; Luke 14:16-24; Luke 15:11-32; Luke 16:19-31; Luke 18:18-43; Luke 19:1-10; Jeremiah 29:13

So again, welcome to all of you—Sharon, welcome to you, and all the rest. Last week we were studying in Luke chapter eighteen. We got down to verse eighteen and the story of the "rich young ruler," as we call him. Do you remember his question? We find it in verse eighteen; it says:

[Luke 18:18 NKJV]

<sup>18</sup> Now a certain ruler asked Him, saying, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"

所以呢，再次来欢迎刚刚加入我们的，包括Sharon和其他的人。上个星期我们在学习路加福音第十八章。我们读到了第十八节，这里呢，我们就是把它称之为一个年轻的有钱的统治者。大家还记得他的问题吗？在第十八节里，这个官问祂说：“良善的师傅，我该做什么才可以承受永生呢？”

There are two problems with what he said. First of all, he announced that Jesus was a "good teacher." Jesus responds to that and says, "Why do you call Me good? There is only one who is good, that is God." So the question is: was Jesus really good? And the answer is yes, He was God. That is the reason, we believe, for the response that the Lord gives the man.

在这里呢出现两个问题。首先，他把主称之为良善的师傅，那么主耶稣告诉他：“为什么你要称我是良善的呢？只有神才是良善的。”那么问题是，主耶稣祂真的是良善的吗？答案是肯定的，因为祂就是神。也就是通过祂给出的答案，我们得到了这个结论。

But the question is: what do you have to do to inherit eternal life? Is eternal life available to people who do things for it so that they can inherit it? I think many of the Jewish people felt that because Abraham was their father, they could inherit eternal life. And frankly, you don't do things to inherit life; you simply ask God to grant you eternal life. I believe this man felt that if he did the right things, he could inherit eternal life. He thinks that by obeying—by

keeping all the commandments—you could inherit eternal life. In fact, many people today make the same mistake.

但问题是，你要做什么才能承受永生呢？永生是不是和人去做什么有关系，这样他们才可以承受？我认为很多犹太人认为，亚伯拉罕是他们的祖宗，所以他们可以承受永生。坦率地说，你不可能通过做什么来承受神的国；你只是祈求神，神赐给你永生。所以我认为这个人觉得，如果他去做正确的事情，或者说他去守律法的话，他就可以承受永生。事实上，当今很多的人都犯了同样的错误。

Reading now in Luke chapter eighteen, verse number twenty:

[Luke 18:20 NKJV]

<sup>20</sup> You know the commandments: "Do not commit adultery," "Do not murder," "Do not steal," "Do not bear false witness," "Honor your father and your mother."

现在我们要读的是路加福音第十八章第二十一节。主耶稣说：“诫命你是知道的：‘不可奸淫，不可杀人，不可偷盗，不可作假见证，当孝敬父母。’”

All right, so those are five. I believe those are of the very good commandments in the list of the Ten Commandments. And amazingly, in verse twenty-one, the man said, "All these have I kept from my youth." Now, did he mean that he had never told a lie? Did he mean that he had always honored his father and mother? Did he mean that he had never stolen anything? The answer is probably not. He just felt, compared to others, he was pretty good.

这里有五个诫命。我认为这是十诫里列出的五个非常好的诫命。令人惊奇的是，在第二十一节，这个人说：“这一切我从小都遵守了。”他的意思是他从来没有说过谎吗？意味着他总是尊敬他的父母吗？还是意味着他从来没有偷过任何东西？答案是有可能没有，因为他只是把自己和其他人相比，觉得他非常好。

Most people in the world, if you ask them how to get eternal life, will tell you: "You should obey the Ten Commandments. If you do, you'll be there." It is interesting that the commandments the Lord mentioned were commandments related to his brother, not commandments related to God. The logic being: if you can't obey the laws regarding your brother or man, how can you obey the laws of God?

世界上大多数人，如果你问他怎样可以得到永生，他们会告诉你说：“你可以守十诫，如果你守了，你就会得到。”非常有趣的是，主提到的诫命是和人的邻舍有关系的，而不是和神之间的关系。这个逻辑是：如果你连和你的弟兄或者人的关系的诫命都守不了，那么你怎么可以守与神之间的诫命呢？

The Lord could have said to him, "Well, the greatest commandment is: 'Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy mind, and soul, and strength.'"

[Luke 10:27 NKJV]

So he answered and said, " 'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,' and 'your neighbor as yourself.' "

Did you do that? The answer, of course, is that he didn't, any more than any of us. Consequently, he has missed out, but the Lord doesn't focus on that. This man says, "I have been good to my fellow man."

主其实可以简单地告诉他：“诫命中最大的就是：‘你要尽心、尽性、尽意、尽力爱主你的神。’”那么你做到了吗？答案当然是他和我们其他人一样都没有做到。因此，他错失了，但主没有把焦点放在这个上面。这个人说：“我对我的同胞一直很好。”

## The Cost of the Kingdom

Verse twenty-two says:

[Luke 18:22 NKJV]

<sup>22</sup> So when Jesus heard these things, He said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."

You look at that, and you say to yourself, the Lord says, "You lack one thing," and then He says, "Sell all you have" and "come and follow Me." Is that one thing or two things? The question is, first of all, if you're going to follow Jesus, who is Jesus? Jesus is God. Therefore, if you were to follow Him, that would be very good. But to follow Him with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength would imply that you would have to sell all you have, give to the poor, and follow Him with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength. To keep the money for yourself would be a sin in itself.

第二十二节说：“耶稣听见这话，就说：‘你还缺少一件：要变卖你一切所有的，分给穷人，就必有财宝在天上；你还要来跟从我。’”你看着这段，对自己说，主说：“你还缺少一件事情，”接着说：“你要变卖你一切所有的，”然后“还要来跟从我。”这是一件事情还是两件事情呢？首先，如果你要跟从耶稣，耶稣是谁？耶稣是神。因此，如果你要跟从祂，那是极好的。但如果要全心、全意、全力地跟从祂，就意味着你必须变卖你的一切，分给穷人，然后全身心地跟从祂。所以，如果把钱留给自己，那本身就是一种罪。

Verse twenty-three says:

[Luke 18:23 NKJV]

<sup>23</sup> But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich.

Why? Don't we all keep the Ten Commandments? Well, the answer is: because it would be very hard. It's hard for a rich man to give up all his wealth. It's hard for a rich man to give up any of his wealth, even just a little bit. This man basically said, "I am good enough to get eternal life." And the Lord Jesus said, "No. In order to get eternal life, you've got to believe Me, and you've got to repent of your sins. And you are not prepared to repent and get rid of your money, and you're not prepared to follow Me."

第二十三节说：“他听见这话，就甚忧愁，因为他很富足。”为什么？难道我们不都是在守十诫吗？答案是因为这非常难。对于富有的人来说，很难放弃他所有的财富。甚至对有钱人来说，要放弃一点点都很困难。所以这个人基本上是在说：“我足够好到可以得到永生。”但主耶稣说：“不，如果你要得到永生，你必须相信我，你必须悔改你的罪。而你还没有准备好悔改，不愿放弃你的金钱，也不愿意跟从我。”

Verse twenty-four says:

[Luke 18:24 NKJV]

<sup>24</sup> And when Jesus saw that he became very sorrowful, He said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!"

The fact is, it is hard for anybody to enter the kingdom of God. But it is even harder for people who have many possessions or have much position. People who have much don't recognize a need for God; people who are destitute often have a greater perceived need for God.

第二十四节：“耶稣看见他，就说：‘有钱财的人进神的国是何等的难哪！’”事实上，对任何人来说，进入神的国都是很难的。但对于那些拥有很多资产或地位很高的人来说，这更是难上加难。富有的人往往意识不到自己对神的需要，而贫困的人往往能更清晰地感受到对神的渴望。

We read the story in chapter fourteen of Luke about the man who made a banquet for all his rich friends and invited them, and they all said no.

[Luke 14:16-24 NKJV]

<sup>16</sup> Then He said to him, "A certain man gave a great supper and invited many, <sup>17</sup> and sent his servant at supper time to say to those who were invited, 'Come, for all things are now ready.' <sup>18</sup> But they all with one accord began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused.' <sup>19</sup> And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused.' <sup>20</sup> Still another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' <sup>21</sup> So that servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house, being angry, said to his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in here the poor and the maimed and the lame and the blind.' <sup>22</sup> And the servant said, 'Master, it is done as you commanded, and still there is room.' <sup>23</sup> Then the master said to the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled. <sup>24</sup> For I say to you that none of those men who were invited shall taste my supper.' "

You'll remember in that story that his servants went out to the poor and invited the poor, and many of them came. Not all, but many of them came. So it is true that it is easier for a poor man—a spiritually poor man or a physically poor man—it's easier for a poor man to become a believer than for a rich man.

我们在路加福音第十四章里读到一个故事，一个人为他所有的富人朋友设了宴席邀请他们，但他们都拒绝了。大家记得在这个故事里，他的仆人去到穷人那里邀请他们，他们中间很多人都来了。虽然不是全部，但确实来了很多。所以事实确实如此，无论是心灵贫穷还是物质贫穷的人，对穷人来说，成为信徒比富人要容易。

That story was illustrated both in chapter fifteen and sixteen of Luke. In chapter fifteen, it is the poor son, not the rich son, who wanted to come back to the father.

[Luke 15:11-32 NKJV]

<sup>11</sup> Then He said: "A certain man had two sons. <sup>12</sup> And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.' So he divided to them his livelihood... <sup>20</sup> And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him.

In chapter sixteen, it was the poor man, Lazarus, the beggar at the gate of the rich man, who became a believer in Jesus, not the rich man himself.

[Luke 16:19-31 NKJV]

<sup>19</sup> "There was a certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day. <sup>20</sup> But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate... <sup>22</sup> So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried.

Verse twenty-four again says it's hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. Are you poor or rich? Frankly, if you were poor, you'd say "Yippee," wouldn't you? Because it's easier for you to get into the kingdom than if you were rich. Under these circumstances, it would be important to remember that each person has circumstances in their lives that God has allowed. Sometimes God makes it easy for you to believe by allowing difficulties, problems, and even poverty to draw you to Himself.

这个道理在路加福音第十五和十六章中都有体现。在第十五章中，是那个穷困潦倒的儿子，而不是那个富有的儿子，想要回到父亲身边。在第十六章中，是那个躺在富人门口讨饭的穷人拉撒路成了信徒，而不是那个富人自己。所以第二十四节再次强调，富人进天国是很难的。你是贫穷还是富有？坦率地说，如果你贫穷，你应该欢呼，不是吗？因为你比富有的人更容易进入神的国。在这种情况下，我们要记住，神允许每个人生命中出现不同的境遇。有时候神通过允许困境、难题、甚至贫穷发生，来让你更容易相信祂，从而将你引向祂自己。

Verse twenty-five says it's easier for a camel to go through a needle's eye than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God. And those who heard it said, "Who then can be saved?"

[Luke 18:25-27 NKJV]

<sup>25</sup> For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." <sup>26</sup> And those who heard it said, "Who then can be saved?" <sup>27</sup> But He said, "The things which are impossible with men are possible with God."

The Lord has outlined the problem here: rich people often find it harder to depend upon the Lord than to follow Him as the poor man does. In the Proverbs, the Lord encourages us not to have confidence in riches. The Lord's answer to who then can be saved is: the things which are impossible with men are possible with God. God is able to convert rich people, but

it's often very hard. Sometimes He has to take away the riches in order to get to the heart of the formerly rich people.

第二十五节说：“骆驼穿过针的眼，比财主进神的国还容易呢。”他们听见这话就说：“这样谁能得救呢？”主在这里指出了问题所在：富人往往发现依靠主比像穷人那样跟随主更难。在箴言中，主鼓励我们不要信靠财富。对于“谁能得救”的回答，主说：在人所不能的事，在神却能。神能够使富人悔改，但这通常非常困难。有时候，祂必须拿走他们的财富，才能触及这些曾经富有的人的内心。

## The Reward of the Kingdom

Now, verse twenty-eight is interesting; it's a contrast here. Peter said, "See, we have left all and followed You, Jesus." What happened to Peter? He was a "semi-rich" man. He was a businessman; he was a fisherman. His father owned a fishing company, and he and his brother worked in the fishing company and probably intended to get rich and continue to be fishermen in their lives. Peter wasn't entirely rich, but he wasn't poverty-stricken. And so he's asking the question now: "I followed You. Others of us followed You—the other disciples. We all left everything and followed You. And the question is: what were we going to get?"

第二十八节非常有意思，这是一个对比。彼得说：“看哪，我们已经撇下所有的跟随你了。”彼得身上发生了什么？他其实是一个“准富人”。他是个生意人，是个渔夫；他父亲拥有一家渔业公司，他和他的兄弟在那工作，很可能打算通过捕鱼变得富有并以此度过一生。彼得并不完全富有，但他也不贫穷。所以他现在问这个问题：“我跟从了你，我们其他的门徒也跟从了你，我们放弃了一切，那么我们能得到什么呢？”

Here is the promise of the Lord in response, verse twenty-nine:

[Luke 18:29-30 NKJV]

<sup>29</sup> So He said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or parents or brothers or wife or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, <sup>30</sup> who shall not receive many times more in this present time, and in the age to come eternal life."

What do you get if you forsake all and follow the Lord Jesus? Well, in the life to come, you get everlasting life—that's pretty good. In this life, what do you get? The answer is: He lists five things here: house, parents, brothers, wife, children. These are the basic five things that life is made up of, isn't it? You need a house to live in; you need somewhere to hang your hat. And you need family: parents, brothers, wife, children. If you become a Christian, you become part of the family of God. And as you're in that family, you realize you've got lots of things that are wonderful. You end up with parents, brothers, wives, children.

这是主在第二十九节的回应。主耶稣对他们说：“我实在告诉你们，人为神的国撇下房屋，或是妻子、弟兄、父母、儿女，没有不在此世得百倍，在来世得永生的。”那么，如果你撇下一切跟从主耶稣，你会得到什么呢？在来世，你会得到永生，那是非常好的。但在今生呢，你会得到什么？答案是这里列出的五样：房屋、父母、弟兄、妻子、儿女。这就是我们人生的五个组成部分，不是吗？你需要一个住的地方。你也需要家庭：父母、弟兄、妻子、儿女。如果你成为基督徒，你就成了神家里的一员。当你在这个大家庭里，你会意识到你拥有许多奇妙的事物。你最终会得到父母、弟兄、妻子和儿女。

I simply go back to my own self, and I say, "Well, Harold, you followed the Lord. You never did have a wife, you never did have a brother, you never did have any children." But the question is: what did I get? I got many men, especially in the assembly at **16th Avenue Gospel Chapel**. I got many men when I was in my youth and even today who I consider to be parents—those who love me, and cared for me, and did what parents would do for me. I got many brothers who cared for me as well. And then, in addition to that, I got some women who have loved me almost like a wife—some women who have loved me all my life and cared for me. And by God's grace, some spiritual children.

我反观我自己说：“海罗德，你跟从了主，你从来没有过妻子，没有过亲兄弟，也没有过儿女。”但问题是：我得到了什么？坦率地说，在我年轻的时候甚至到现在，我认识了很多人，尤其是在16街福音堂，很多人爱我、关心我，就像父母一样。我也有很多关心我的弟兄。此外，我也有一些女性长辈非常爱护我，就像家人一样。凭借神的恩典，我还有一些属灵的儿女。

Am I more blessed in terms of house, parents, brothers, wife, children? Am I more blessed than people who said, "I don't want to follow Jesus; I'm going to devote myself to getting those five things"? The answer is yes. The family of God is closer. After time, the family of God is closer than many members of the family of our natural parents. This rich man is disappointed; he doesn't want to give up his riches. Peter said, "I and the other disciples, we all gave up the pursuit of riches. What did we get?" The answer is more in this life, and by the grace of God, eternal life as well. That's all an encouragement to trust the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior!

我比那些说“我不想跟随耶稣，我要致力于追求这五样东西”的人更有福吗？答案是肯定的。神的大家庭更加亲密。随着时间的推移，神家里的亲情往往比原生家庭的亲情还要深厚。那个富有的人很失望，因为他不愿放弃财富。彼得说：“我和其他门徒放弃了对财富的追求，我们得到了什么？”答案是今生得百倍，且靠着神的恩典，来世得永生。这都是在鼓励我们要信靠主耶稣基督作为救主！

## The Path to Jerusalem

Having promised that, He now goes and explains some of the difficulty that they're going to have to understand. Against this wonderful backdrop of verse number twenty-nine and thirty, He says in thirty-one:

[Luke 18:31-33 NKJV]

<sup>31</sup> Then He took the twelve aside and said to them, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and all things that are written by the prophets concerning the Son of Man will be accomplished. <sup>32</sup> For He will be delivered to the Gentiles and will be mocked and insulted and spit upon. <sup>33</sup> They will scourge Him and kill Him. And the third day He will rise again."

They probably understood that and agreed to that, but He explains it in more detail in verse thirty-two. I think there are seven things that are going to happen to the Lord Jesus. Let's count again just to make sure: 1) He will be delivered to the Gentiles; 2) He will be mocked; 3) Insulted; 4) Spit upon; 5) They will scourge Him; 6) They will put Him to death; 7) And the third day He will rise again. Just remind you: the number seven is the number of completion. The first six things are very difficult, but the seventh is the completion, and the end is absolutely wonderful: He will rise again.

在许下那个诺言之后，祂接着解释了他们将要面临的一些难以理解的困境。在二十九和三十节那奇妙的背景下，主在三十一节说：“耶稣带着十二个门徒，对他们说：‘看哪，我们上耶路撒冷去，先知所写一切关乎人子的事都要成就。’”他们可能理解并同意这一点，但在三十二节祂解释了更多细节。我认为共有七件事情要发生在主耶稣身上：第一，祂将被交给外邦人；第二，祂将被戏弄；第三，被凌辱；第四，被吐唾沫；第五，被鞭打；第六，被杀害；第七，第三日祂要复活。提醒大家，数字“七”代表完整。前六件事非常艰难，但第七件是圆满的结局，是非常奇妙的：祂将要复活。

That's the great principle that He was explaining to the rich man and to Peter. In verse twenty-two, He says, "You give up your riches, and you will have treasure in heaven. Come, follow Me." The man was unwilling to give up earthly treasure for heavenly treasure. And then to Peter, He extends the promise of heavenly treasure and eternal life in response to what they gave up. And now, as an example of that—as the proof that will be possible—the Lord Jesus said Himself will go through the agony and the suffering of Calvary, but the third day He will rise again. The principle is clear, and the question is: are we willing to do today what has to be done, in spite of the fact that it's difficult, in order to make sure that we get great blessings in heaven—not just life in heaven, but treasure in heaven?

这就是祂向那个富有的人和彼得解释的伟大原则。在二十二节中，祂说：“你变卖一切，你就有财宝在天上，你还要来跟从我。”那个人不愿意为了天上的财宝放弃地上的财富。而对彼得，祂承诺天上的财富和永生作为他们放弃一切的回报。现在，作为这事可行的证据和榜样，主耶稣说祂自己将经历各各他的痛苦与受难，但第三日祂必复活。原则很明确，问题是：我们今天是否愿意去做那些该做的事，尽管过程艰难，以确保我们在天上得到巨大的祝福——不仅是天上的生命，还有天上的财宝？

Verse thirty-four says:

[Luke 18:34 NKJV]

<sup>34</sup> But they understood none of these things; this saying was hidden from them, and they did not know the things which were spoken.

Even these disciples who had been with the Lord Jesus now for two or three years were amazed, and they didn't understand what He said. Christians are often slow to understand. Don't worry if you don't understand everything, especially if you don't understand the problem of trials in your life. Don't be distressed; these are difficult to understand. Peter and the others didn't know it then, but they all stood tall for Jesus after His resurrection.

第三十四节说：“这些事门徒一样也不懂得，意思乃是隐藏的；他们不晓得所说的是什么。”即使是跟随了主耶稣两三年的门徒也感到惊讶，且不明白祂在说什么。基督徒往往理解得比较慢。如果你不理解所有的事情，尤其是你生活中的试炼，不要担心，也不要沮丧。这些事确实难以理解。彼得和其他人当时并不明白，但在耶稣复活后，他们都为祂刚强站立。

## The Blind Man of Jericho

Now, in verse thirty-five, Luke introduces us to another story in the travels of Jesus. All of this, I believe, is to encourage us to trust the Lord when we don't understand a lot of what is going on.

[Luke 18:35-37 NKJV]

<sup>35</sup> Then it happened, as He was coming near Jericho, that a certain blind man sat by the road begging. <sup>36</sup> And hearing a multitude passing by, he asked what it meant. <sup>37</sup> So they told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by.

Let me remind you that the Lord Jesus is going to Jerusalem, and as we've just read, He will be put to death there. That's probably going to happen just a few weeks from this story. So in

verse thirty-five, He's coming near Jericho, and Jericho isn't far from Jerusalem. He saw a certain blind man sitting by the road. This physically blind man was somewhat similar to the disciples, who, as we just read, were spiritually blind to what God was going to do. What do you do when you're in a situation where you don't really understand God? Many people have questions in life that are too difficult for them to understand. What do you do then?

在三十五节中，路加为我们介绍了耶稣旅途中的另一个故事。我相信所有这一切都是为了鼓励我们，当我们不完全明白发生了什么时，仍要信靠主。第三十五节说：“耶稣将近耶利哥的时候，有一个瞎子坐在路旁讨饭。”提醒大家，主耶稣正要去耶路撒冷，正如我们刚读到的，祂将在那里被处死。离那件事发生可能只有几个星期了。祂走近耶利哥，耶利哥离耶路撒冷不远。祂看见一个瞎子坐在路边讨饭。这个肉体眼瞎的人与门徒们有些相似，门徒们在灵性上对神将要成就的事也是“瞎眼”的。当你处于一个并不真正了解神的情况时，你会怎么做？很多人在生活中遇到太难理解的问题。那时候该怎么办？

Verses thirty-eight and thirty-nine show the response of this blind man:

[Luke 18:38-39 NKJV]

<sup>38</sup> And he cried out, saying, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" <sup>39</sup> Then those who went before warned him that he should be quiet; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

What does the blind man say? "Jesus is near! I am going to cry to Him. I'm going to say, 'Jesus, please have mercy on me.'" Some of us are spiritually blind, just as this man was physically blind—but blind nevertheless. In the issues of life, don't delay in crying to God for mercy. Don't stop asking for mercy. Keep on crying and saying, "Lord, have mercy on me!" even if some of your friends around you should say "No," don't worry about it.

第三十八和三十九节展示了瞎子的反应。瞎子说什么？“耶稣近了！我要向祂呼求。我要说：‘耶稣，请怜悯我。’”我们中有些人灵里是瞎的，就像这个人肉体是瞎的一样。在人生的重大问题面前，不要拖延，要向神呼求怜悯。不要停止祈求。要一直呼求说：“主啊，怜悯我！”即使你身边的朋友劝你“别叫了”，也不要管他们。

Verse forty says:

[Luke 18:40-42 NKJV]

<sup>40</sup> So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be brought to Him. And when he had come near, He asked him, <sup>41</sup> saying, "What do you want Me to do for you?" He said,

"Lord, that I may receive my sight." <sup>42</sup> Then Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well."

Good question: what do you want the Lord to do for you? This man's argument was simple; he simply said, "I'm blind, I'm a beggar, and I want to be able to see." How did he get his sight back? He believed that Jesus could give him his sight back. How did he prove that he believed it? He cried out! He probably shouted more at Jesus on that occasion than he had shouted for a long time. Again, the very simple line says: "Your faith has saved you." Keep on believing in God! He helped you yesterday, He's kind to you today; you may be scared silly about tomorrow, but you just keep believing Him and let Him save you for tomorrow as well.

第四十节说：“耶稣站住，吩咐把他领过来。到了跟前，就问他说：‘你要我为你做什么？’他说：‘主啊，我要能看见！’”这是个好问题：你想要主为你做什么？这个人的诉求很单纯，他只是说：“我是个讨饭的瞎子，我想要看见。”他是如何恢复视力的？他相信耶稣能让他复原。他如何证明他的信心？他呼求了！他在那个场合对耶稣的呐喊，可能比他很长一段时间以来的喊叫都要大声。正如那句简单的话所说：“你的信救了你了。”要一直相信神！祂昨天帮助了你，今天待你恩慈；你可能对明天感到极度恐慌，但你只要继续相信祂，让祂也救你度过明天。

Verse forty-three says:

[Luke 18:43 NKJV]

<sup>43</sup> And immediately he received his sight, and followed Him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

How many people were going through Jerusalem with Jesus at this time? Verse thirty-six says he heard a "multitude" passing by. How many were in that multitude? We don't know; some would think maybe hundreds of people. I tend to think it was probably thousands of people because He was going up to Jerusalem for the annual Feast of Passover. Thousands, tens of thousands, hundreds of thousands—possibly even millions of Jews were going up to Jerusalem at this time. There's a long road from Jericho to Jerusalem. It's been my privilege to drive up that road on several occasions, and it must have been a wonderful road to be on with the Lord Jesus, but it was a long, hot road.

第四十三节说：“瞎子立刻看见了，就跟随耶稣，一路归荣耀与神。众人看见这事，也赞美神。”当时有多少人和耶稣一起去耶路撒冷？三十六节说他听见“许多人”经过。那是多少人？我们不知道，有人认为可能有几百人。我倾向于认为可能有成千上万的人，因为当时正是为了年度逾越节去耶路撒冷。成千上万、数十

万、甚至上百万的犹太人都在这段时间涌向耶路撒冷。从耶利哥到耶路撒冷有一段长路。我有幸几次开车走过那条路，能与主耶稣同行那一定非常奇妙，但那确实是一条漫长而炎热的路。

Immediately, he received his sight and followed God, glorifying Him. Here he is, going up to Jerusalem—probably a journey of several days. The blind man goes up with the people, and they meet him and ask him what happened. He tells them the marvelous story, and they praise God together. Has the Lord given you spiritual light? Have you had your spiritual eyes opened? Has He given you new life? If you say, "Yes, He has," then what is your responsibility? The answer is to tell people and to praise the Lord. A Christian tells his experience in two ways: he tells people what God has done for him—we call that witnessing—and he thanks the Lord for what He has done for him—we call that worshipping. Our primary time of worship is the Breaking of Bread; that comes first. And then we tell people how thankful we are. I think that's what happened with this blind man.

瞎子立刻看见了，就跟随神，并荣耀祂。他在去耶路撒冷的路上——大概是几天的路程——和众人同行。人们遇到他，问他发生了什么，他就告诉他们这个奇妙的故事，大家一起赞美神。主有没有赐给你属灵的光？你的属灵之眼开了吗？祂有没有赐给你新生命？如果说“是的，祂给了”，那么你的责任是什么？答案是告诉别人并赞美主。基督徒通过两种方式讲述他的经历：告诉别人神为他做了什么，我们称之为“见证”；为神所做的事感谢主，我们称之为“敬拜”。我们主要的敬拜时间是掰饼聚会，那是首要的。然后我们要告诉别人我们是多么感恩。我认为这就是发生在这个瞎子身上的事。

## Zacchaeus: A Rich Man Seeking

Now, another story in chapter nineteen:

[Luke 19:1-2 NKJV]

<sup>1</sup> Then Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. <sup>2</sup> Now behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich.

Now you've got an interesting story. This is a story of a rich man, but not the same story as the former rich man that we read about. This is a man who is somewhat like the blind man; he's living in Jericho and he hears the Lord Jesus passing by, just like the blind man did.

[Luke 19:3-4 NKJV]

<sup>3</sup> And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not because of the crowd, for he was of short stature. <sup>4</sup> So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, for He was going to pass that way.

第十九章里有另一个故事。耶稣进入耶利哥，正经过的时候，有一个人名叫撒该，作税吏长，是个财主。这是一个很有意思的故事。这也是一个关于富人的故事，但与我们之前读到的那个富人的故事不同。这个人有点像那个瞎子，他住在耶利哥，也听到了主耶稣经过的消息。第三节说：“他要看看耶稣是怎样的人，只因人多，他的身量又矮，所以不得看见。就跑到前头，爬上桑树，要看耶稣，因为耶稣必从那里经过。”

This man is very like the other two; he's an interesting contrast to those former stories. He was apparently a pretty short fella, but he ran ahead and found a place where the Lord Jesus was going to be coming, and he climbed up into a sycamore tree so he could look down over the crowd and see Jesus. When I was in Israel many years ago, somebody said to me, "That tree over there—that is a sycamore tree." I looked at it and thought to myself, "Would that be an easy tree to climb?" So I ran over and I climbed it. For a number of reasons, a sycamore tree is an easy tree to climb. Some people say, "I would like to see Jesus." My answer is: well, go ahead, take a good look. It's easy to see Jesus. Open your Bible and read it and re-read it. It's easy to see Jesus.

这个人与前两个故事形成了一个有趣的对比。他显然是个矮个子，但他跑到前头，找到了主耶稣必经之地，爬上一棵桑树，以便能从高处俯瞰人群，看见耶稣。多年前我在以色列时，有人指给我看说：“那棵就是桑树。”我看着它心想：“这树容易爬吗？”于是我跑过去试着爬了一下。由于种种原因，桑树确实很容易攀爬。有些人说：“我想见耶稣。”我的回答是：去吧，好好看看。见耶稣并不难。打开你的圣经读了再读，很容易就能看见耶稣。

Verse five says:

[Luke 19:5 NKJV]

<sup>5</sup> And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and saw him, and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house."

Interestingly, this particular man, Zacchaeus, made it clear that he wanted to see Jesus, but it was Jesus who told him how he was going to be able to see Him. You remember Jeremiah said:

[Jeremiah 29:13 NKJV]

And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.

Zacchaeus makes the simple choice of going out of his way, running ahead, and getting to a place where he can see Jesus; and when he sees Him, Jesus also sees him, and they get together. This was a big crowd—probably thousands of people—but Jesus sees Zacchaeus and says, "Zacchaeus, I want to go to your house." And Zacchaeus said, "Yes, come." Do you think that meant a change of plans for Zacchaeus that day? Zacchaeus was a businessman; he had business to attend to. He had a house and probably a wife, and bringing Jesus to the house meant a change of plans. If you invite Jesus into your life, is it going to have an impact upon what you do, where you go, and how things are planned? The answer is yes. When you meet Jesus, it has a big impact on your life.

第五节说：“耶稣到了那里，抬头看见他，并对他说：‘撒该，快下来！今天我必住在你家里。’”有趣的是，撒该明确表示想见耶稣，但却是耶稣告诉他如何将如何能见到祂。你记得耶利米书说：“你们寻求我，若专心寻求我，就必寻见。”撒该做了一个简单的选择：特意跑到前头，找个能看见耶稣的地方；当他看见耶稣时，耶稣也看见了他，于是他们相遇了。当时人群拥挤，可能有成千上万的人，但耶稣看到了撒该并说：“撒该，我要去你家。”撒该回答说：“好，请来。”你认为这是否意味着撒该那天的计划要改变？他是个生意人，有生意要忙；他有房子，可能有妻子，带耶稣回家意味着计划全变了。如果你邀请耶稣进入你的生命，这是否会影响你的所作所为、你的去向以及你的计划？答案是肯定的。当你遇见耶稣，你的生命将发生巨大的改变。

There were many people in this multitude, and verse seven says:

[Luke 19:7 NKJV]

<sup>7</sup> But when they saw it, they all complained, saying, "He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner."

Was anybody else willing to spend time with this man, Zacchaeus? No. He was a tax collector; therefore, he worked for the Roman government. He was considered a traitor among the people he lived with. Instead of rejoicing, as they did when the blind man was given sight, they criticized the Lord Jesus for spending time with such a bad man as Zacchaeus. Who knows how long they were together—maybe after lunch—but this is what Zacchaeus says in verse eight:

[Luke 19:8 NKJV]

<sup>8</sup> Then Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold."

在这人群中有很多很多人，第七节说：“众人看见，都私下议论说：‘他竟然到罪人家里去住宿。’”还有别人愿意和撒该相处吗？没有。他是个税吏，为罗马政府工作。在他同胞眼中，他是个卖国贼。众人没有像对待那个重见光明的瞎子那样欢喜，反而批评主耶稣与撒该这样一个坏人相处。谁知道他们在一起待了多久——也许是午饭后——撒该在第八节说：“撒该站着对主说：‘主啊，我把所有的一半给穷人；我若讹诈了谁，就还他四倍。’”

I'm not sure precisely whether that means he always did that, or whether he purposed to do that from now on. Either way, he is determined to do what the Bible says he must do regarding money. The rich young ruler said, "I can't do what God wants regarding money; I can do everything else, but certainly not regarding money." Peter had said, "We gave up all and followed You." The Lord said, "Peter, I'll look after you; I'll give you all the things that people want." Bartimaeus, the blind man, said, "I'll follow You!" and the Lord caused him to be a great witness and bring God much glory. And so, this man Zacchaeus says, "I'm prepared to follow You, Jesus." Verse nine says:

[Luke 19:9-10 NKJV]

<sup>9</sup> And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham; <sup>10</sup> for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

我不确定这是否意味着他一直这样做，还是他决定从今往后这样做。无论如何，他下定决心要在金钱上遵行圣经的要求。那个年轻的财主说：“在金钱方面我做不到神的要求；其他我都能做，但金钱绝对不行。”彼得曾说：“我们已经撇下所有的跟随你了。”主说：“彼得，我会照顾你，我会赐给你人们渴望的一切。”瞎子巴底买说：“我要跟随你！”主就使他成为伟大的见证，使神得着荣耀。于是撒该也说：“耶稣，我准备好跟随你了。”第九节说：“耶稣说：‘今天救恩到了这家，因为他也是亚伯拉罕的子孙。人子来，为要寻找、拯救失丧的人。’”

He probably was the "son of Abraham" in two ways: he was a natural son of Abraham as part of the Jewish people, but he was also a spiritual son of Abraham because he believed God just the way Abraham believed God. The Lord Jesus' conclusion on all this is in verse ten:

"The Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost." That is a marvelous verse. I think if you look at it, it's probably sixteen little words. Somebody has pointed out that they're all simple words; they are monosyllabic—one syllable only in each word. Monosyllabic. That's it. If you were trying to learn English, that would be an easy verse to learn. And it is a wonderful verse. Zacchaeus was lost. Jesus came to seek and to save him.

他可能在两方面都是“亚伯拉罕的子孙”：从肉身看，他是犹太人；从属灵看，他像亚伯拉罕那样信神。主耶稣对这一切的结论就在第十节：“人子来，为要寻找、拯救失丧的人。”这是一个奇妙的经文。如果你看英文，这大概是由十六个简单的词组成的。有人指出，这些词都是单音节词，非常简单。如果你在学英语，这是一个非常容易学的经文。这也是一个极其美妙的经文。撒该迷失了，耶稣来寻找并拯救了他。

What did the Lord Jesus do to save this man? Answer: He noticed that he was interested. He looked up into the sycamore tree and saw him, and He probably thought, "What is that man doing there?" His response was obvious; He would say, "That man went up into the sycamore tree to see Me." When the Savior saw that Zacchaeus wanted to see Him, He said, "Therefore, I want to see Zacchaeus." The principle: if you seek the Savior, He will seek you.

主耶稣做了什么来拯救这个人？答案是：祂注意到撒该对他有渴慕。祂抬头望向桑树看见了他，心想：“那个人在那做什么？”答案显而易见：那个人爬上树是为了见我。当救主看到撒该渴望见祂，祂便说：“我也要见撒该。”原则就是：如果你寻求救主，祂也必寻求你。

All right! Well, that's our wonderful story for this evening, and we're glad that we're here, but our time is gone. Let's pray and we'll let you carry on. Lord, we've had these three simple stories tonight—stories about people who sought the Savior. The rich man was seeking, but he wanted money more than Jesus, and he didn't find the Savior; he didn't get saved. But by the grace of God, Bartimaeus and Zacchaeus both got saved. Each of us would say we want to be like Bartimaeus; we want to be like Zacchaeus. We want to see Jesus.

好！这就是我们今晚奇妙的故事。我们很高兴在这里，但时间到了。我们来祷告。主啊，我们今晚分享了三个简单的故事——关于寻求救主的人的故事。那个财主虽然寻求，但他爱钱财胜过耶稣，他没能找到救主，也没能得救。但靠着神的恩典，巴底买和撒该都得救了。我们每个人都想说：我们要像巴底买，我们要像撒该，我们要见耶稣。

Thanks for Your help to us this evening. Lord, bless us all. Thank You that those who trust the Savior become part of the family of God. Help us to love one another; help us to rest and be blessed by one another! Again, Lord, we thank You for all that You are and all that You've done for us. We pray that You will bless us and keep us till next week. We give thanks in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and pray, Amen.

感谢祢今晚对我们的帮助。主啊，求祢赐福我们众人。感谢祢，让信靠救主的人成为神家里的一员。求祢帮助我们彼此相爱，帮助我们互相扶持、互相祝福！主啊，再次感谢祢的所是和祢为我们所做的一切。求祢赐福我们，保守我们直到下周。我们奉主耶稣基督的名感恩祷告，阿们。